

Message Text

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ORIGIN AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 SIG-03 SSO-00 NSCE-00
ICAE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY GABORONE IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LAGOS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA IMMEDIATE
AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN IMMEDIATE
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 101530

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: RH, BC, PDEV

SUBJECT: RHODESIA: MUZOREWA VISIT TO BOTSWANA

REF: GABORONE I08I

I. WE FIND MUZOREWA'S VISIT TO BOTSWANA A FASCINATING
DEVELOPMENT. HE WILL OBVIOUSLY PRESS FOR GOB ACCEPTANCE
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OF THE INTERNAL SETTLEMENT. WE DOUBT THAT THE BATSWANA
WILL GO THAT FAR, BUT WE ASSUME FROM WHAT YOU HAVE
REPORTED ABOUT THEIR CURRENT DISILLUSIONMENT WITH THE
PF, THEY WILL LISTEN VERY CAREFULLY TO MUZOREWA'S
ARGUMENTS.

2. FOR LONDON: PLEASE PASS THIS CABLE TO FCO,

NOTING THAT SHORT NOTICE BEFORE MUZOREWA'S ARRIVAL IN GABORONE DID NOT GIVE US ADEQUATE OPPORTUNITY TO COORDINATE ON TALKING POINTS. IF FCO WOULD LIKE TO SUGGEST ALTERNATIVES, THEY SHOULD DO SO VIA HICOM TURNER IN GABORONE, WHO WILL CONSULT WITH AMBASSADOR NORLAND PRIOR TO MAKING THEIR JOINT DEMARCHE. IF CHANGES ARE MAJOR THEY SHOULD BE REFERRED TO DEPT.

3. FOR GABORONE: THE MESSAGE WE WISH TO CONVEY TO MUZOREWA THROUGH THE GOB IS THE CASE FOR A FAVORABLE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL RESPONSE TO OUR CALL FOR A ROUND

TABLE CONFERENCE (ALL-PARTIES MEETING) WHICH SECRETARIES VANCE AND OWEN PRESENTED IN SALISBURY.

4. YOU SHOULD THEREFORE TELL GOB THAT THE POINTS WE WOULD LIKE MADE TO MUZOREWA ARE THE FOLLOWING:

A. IT IS IMPERATIVE TO OBTAIN INTERNATIONAL ACCEPTABILITY FOR A RHODESIAN SETTLEMENT. SUCH ACCEPTABILITY WOULD PROVIDE FOR LONG TERM PEACE, ALLOW AN EARLY LIFTING OF SANCTIONS, AND PROVIDE FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE AFTER INDEPENDENCE.

B. FAILURE TO OBTAIN INTERNATIONAL ACCEPTABILITY WILL MAKE IT EASIER FOR THOSE WISHING TO PROMOTE CONTINUED CONFLICT AND THE INVOLVEMENT OF OUTSIDE
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FORCES.

C. THE SALISBURY GROUP HAS THE OPPORTUNITY TO SEEK THIS ACCEPTABILITY BY MEETING WITH OTHER PARTIES TO SEEK COMMON GROUND. THE PF HAVE SAID THAT THEY ARE WILLING TO MEET.

D. SUCH A MEETING WOULD BE WITHOUT PRECONDITIONS. THE SALISBURY GROUP WOULD NOT HAVE TO ABANDON ITS AGREEMENT OR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE INTERNAL SETTLEMENT IN ORDER TO ATTEND.

E. EVEN IF AGREEMENT AMONG THE PARTIES WERE NOT REACHED, PARTICIPATION BY THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL IN SUCH A MEETING WOULD HAVE POSITIVE BENEFITS. IT WOULD KEEP THE FOCUS OF ATTENTION ON NEGOTIATIONS RATHER THAN ON EXPANDING WARFARE.

F. THE UK AND US CONTINUE TO BELIEVE THAT THE ANGLO-AMERICAN PROPOSALS OFFER A FAIR AND COMPREHENSIVE PATH TO A NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT. THOSE TWO COUNTRIES WILL STAND BY THE PRINCIPLES OF THEIR PROPOSALS IN

FURTHER NEGOTIATIONS.

G. HOWEVER, AS SECRETARIES OWEN AND VANCE MADE
CLEAR, BOTH IN DAR ES SALAAM AND IN SALISBURY, THE UK
AND US WOULD NOT OBJECT TO A SETTLEMENT BASED ON
ANOTHER SET OF CONCEPTS AGREED TO BY ALL THE PARTIES,
AS LONG AS IT WERE DEMONSTRABLY ACCEPTABLE TO THE
PEOPLE OF RHODESIA. CHRISTOPHER

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